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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Osamu SESHIMOTO et al.

Serial No.: 10/674,445

Filed: September 29, 2003

Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: D. L. Sorkin

Atty Docket No.: JG-TT-4852C2/500568.20040

**CONTINUOUS BLOOD
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Customer No.: 026418

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 8, 2004, it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be entered and the accompanying remarks be considered. A petition for and the requisite fee for a two-month extension of time are filed herewith. Thus, the period for response is set to expire on April 8, 2005. Therefore, this response is timely filed.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper. **Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 5 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper. An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 11 of this paper.

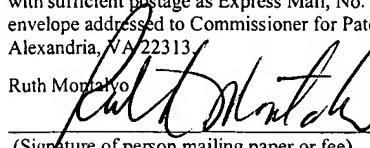
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